

## POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 11, 2010

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Pirzynski in Conference Room B-104, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jim Griffith	City of Sunnyvale	Present
David Whittum, Alternate	City of Sunnyvale	NA
Howard Miller	City of Saratoga	Present
Kathleen King, Alternate	City of Saratoga	NA
Dave Cortese	SCC Board of Supervisors	Absent
Michael F. Kotowski	City of Campbell	Present
Jason Baker, Alternate	City of Campbell	NA
Gilbert Wong	City of Cupertino	Absent
TBD, Alternate	City of Cupertino	NA
Cat Tucker	City of Gilroy	Present
Dion Bracco, Alternate	City of Gilroy	NA
Megan Satterlee	City of Los Altos	Present
TBD, Alternate	City of Los Altos	NA
Joe Pirzynski	Town of Los Gatos	Present
Diane McNutt, Alternate	Town of Los Gatos	NA
TBD Member	City of Milpitas	NA
TBD, Alternate	City of Milpitas	NA
Marshall Anstandig	City of Monte Sereno	Absent
Curtis Wright, Alternate	City of Monte Sereno	NA
Marby Lee	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
Steve Tate, Alternate	City of Morgan Hill	NA
John Inks	City of Mountain View	Present
Jac Siegel, Alternate	City of Mountain View	NA
Gail Price	City of Palo Alto	Present
Larry Klein, Alternate	City of Palo Alto	NA
Kansen Chu	City of San Jose	Present
Jamie Matthews	City of Santa Clara	Present
Jamie McLeod, Alternate	City of Santa Clara	NA
TBD Member	Town of Los Altos Hills	NA

**A quorum was not present and a Committee of the Whole was declared.**

#### 2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

Member Griffith arrived at the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

**3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Public Presentations.

**4. Committee Staff Report**

**General Manager's Quarterly Report**

Michael T. Burns, General Manager, provided a brief report, highlighting: 1) Transportation Reauthorization Bill, 2) Regional Level Federal Stimulus Funds, 3) State Budget, and 4) High Speed Rail Project.

Mr. Burns reported the Transportation Reauthorization Bill expired on September 2009, but the Senate passed a bill, which will continue the appropriations resolution to the end of 2010.

Member Chu arrived at 4:10 p.m. and a quorum was established.

Mr. Burns reported the BART Oakland Airport Connector Project lost federal stimulus funding and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) set up a process to reallocate the federal stimulus funding to transit agencies in the region; VTA will receive \$12 million as part of the reallocation and will program the funding to purchase buses and as an option to assist with budget deficit issues.

Mr. Burns commented on the Gas Tax Swap proposal to eliminate the sales tax on gas and increase the excise tax. The proposal would eliminate the source of funding protected for public transportation and allows the State to use funding for other general fund obligations. However, the intent of the Legislature is to fund public transportation so they passed a bill to increase diesel fuel tax, which would provide funding for intercity rail and public transportation; therefore, VTA will receive \$12 to \$13 million a year from the State.

Chairperson Matthews arrived at the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Mr. Burns commented on the State Transit Assistance (STA) funding, noting there are provisions for appropriation of \$400 million for the next two years to public transportation; VTA expects to receive approximately \$15 million.

Mr. Burns reported the High Speed Rail Project received \$2.25 billion from Federal Stimulus Funds, noting the project needs to receive federal environmental approval by 2011 for 2012 funding.

Mr. Burns announced the Diridon Station Joint Policy Advisory Board (PAB) is scheduled on Friday, March 19, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at San Jose City Hall.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski relinquished his seat at 4:35 p.m. and Chairperson Matthews presided for the remainder of the meeting.

**5. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Matthews requested staff distribute to the Committee the following graphs showing the relationship between gasoline prices, employment, and VTA Ridership:

- "VTA Average Weekday Ridership and Santa Clara County Employment"
- "VTA Average Weekday Ridership and Retail Regular Gasoline Price"
- "VTA Light Rail Average Weekday Ridership and Retail Regular Gasoline Price"

Mr. Lawson stated the graphs reflect there is a greater connection to ridership and employment than gasoline price.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski provided a brief overview of the Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee, noting the Ad-Hoc Committee met four times and will continue to meet until the end of June 2010. The Ad-Hoc Committee is comprised of three Committee Members and the following Key Stakeholder Groups:

- VTA's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA), and Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Chairperson or Chairperson's designee;
- Santa Clara County City Managers Association;
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group;
- Santa Clara County Chambers of Commerce;
- South Bay AF of L/CIO Labor Council; and
- VTA's Labor Unions

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski stated the intent of the Ad-Hoc Committee is to look at VTA's Structural issues and to establish solutions to address VTA's financial situation.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski noted the next Ad-Hoc Financial Recovery Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at VTA River Oaks Campus in the Auditorium.

**4. Committee Staff Report (continued)**

Jim Lawson, Senior Policy Advisor and Staff Liaison, provided a brief overview of the March 4, 2010 Board of Director's meeting, noting the Board approved the General Manager's Employment Agreement and the sale of VTA Surplus Property.

**BUSINESS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ GENERAL MANAGER**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. Minutes of February 11, 2010**

M/S/C (Kotowski/Tucker) on a vote of 9 ayes to 1 abstention to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2010. Member Satterlee abstained.

**7. Fiscal Year to Date 2010 Second Quarter Transit Operations Performance**

**On order of Chairperson Matthews** and there being no objection, the Committee received a report on the Fiscal Year to Date 2010 Second Quarter Transit Operations Performance.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**8. Strategic Finance Assessment – Capital Projects**

Kim Koenig, Fiscal Resources Manager, reported the Valley Transportation Plan 2035 (VTP 2035) and the Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) include high priority projects with funding shortfalls to build, operate, and maintain.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in September 2009 to select a firm to conduct a strategic assessment of alternative delivery methods or financing approaches with Public Private Partnership (PPP) opportunities to deliver high priority projects with inadequate funding for completion and project characteristics that would offer alternative delivery methods.

**NOTE:** M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Koenig continued that projects will be eliminated from further consideration during the initial screening process based on various factors. The remaining projects will go through a more detailed analysis to identify finance, procurement strategies, and opportunities, while the final Implementation Plan will have recommendations of alternative delivery methods.

Vice Chairperson Pirzynski requested staff provide the PAC Committee with the criteria information on the projects that are accepted in the initial screening process. Ms. Koenig responded that staff will provide a memorandum on the criteria used in the initial screening process to the PAC Committee.

**On order of Chairperson Matthews** and there being no objection, the Committee received a report on a Strategic Finance Assessment of Capital Projects.

**9. 2010 Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) Program Manager Fund**

Bill Hough, Transportation Planner III, provided an overview of the staff report.

**M/S/C (Satterlee/Pirzynski)** to approve the programming of FY 2010/11 Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager (TFCA 40%) funds to projects.

**OTHER**

**10. Committee Work Plan**

Member Price referenced Senate Bill 375: Redesigning Communities to Reduce Greenhouse Gases and requested the item for a future agenda. Mr. Lawson responded that staff will add the item to the PAC Committee Work Plan for a future meeting.

**On order of Chairperson Matthews** and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

**11. Announcements**

There were no Announcements.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**On order of Chairperson Matthews** and there being no objection, the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle M. Garza, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary